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Extract of Memo of Conversation between J. Critchfield and R. Gehlen, 25 March 1957, New York City. Copy filed in UJ DRACO 8.

5. In a philosophical view Gehlen figuratively stepped back from his current problems to note that he had neither military nor political aspirations and asked nothing more of the future than success in developing the GIS into a professional service capable of making a contribution to the cause of the Western World to which Gehlen continues to be dedicated. Noting that the years slip by rapidly and that eventually he would be faced with retirement and the problem of a successor, he stated that Colonel Wessel, his wartime deputy and the last WW II chief of Foreign Armies East, has been and remains his candidate for the position.

(Comment: Gehlen is only 54 years of age; looks younger; appears to be in excellent health in spite of a sensitive gall ailment dating back 13 years. Wessel is approximately 10 years younger than Gehlen.)

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